



Roxbury, April 21, 1874.

My dear Johnson:

In accordance with your request, I shall send the ~~three~~ volumes of the Liberator named in your letter, by express, to-morrow. You can examine them at your leisure, as I shall not need to have them speedily returned.

How many interesting reminiscences will be awakened by their perusal! Various persons have spoken to me of the interest and pleasure they have taken in reading your articles in the Christian Union, respecting the anti-slavery struggle; and I enclose a letter from an old and esteemed colored friend, whom perhaps you may remember, expressive of his feelings on the subject. Doubtless you are aware that C. W. Slack is republishing your articles in his Commonwealth. Have you seen any reference to them in any of your exchanges?

I congratulate you and Jenny on having got settled in your new quarters, and that you find them so convenient and satisfactory. When I shall have the pleasure of giving you a call is indeed quite uncertain. Last week I intended to go to New York to-morrow, to anticipate the arrival from Havre of Harry and Fanny, and their three children, in the steam-ship Frisia, which will be due by Friday or Saturday next; but I am very reluctantly compelled to remain at home, in consequence of bodily weakness and the difficulty of locomotion. The rheumatic affection in my right knee, (extending in some degree to my left,) which has caused me more than a year of almost unmitigated pain and suffering, still defies every so-called remedy applied to it, and at this hour is especially sharp and stinging. It unfits me for labor, and,

as the sight of my right eye is badly impaired, I am obliged to forego much reading, and wholly so by gas-light. Then, I have kidney troubles, which at times debilitate me exceedingly. So you see that my system is indicating a broken condition, and it is hardly to be mended in my seventieth year. Ultimately, it will be a delightful experience to exchange it for a much better one, of which I have no doubt.

And, speaking of mortality, let me ask whether you remember Josiah Hayward, of Salem, a tried abolitionist, whose friendship I have enjoyed for forty years, and who was truly one of the best of men? A few days ago, he fell dead in the street, of heart disease, near his house; and yesterday I attended his funeral, and participated in the services. How many of our old co-laborers have been translated! and how few remain behind, waiting for the message to depart!

There is scarcely any probability of my being able to attend the Longwood meeting, much as I shall desire to be there. I long exceedingly to see the dear friends again in that section, especially the Coxes, Mendenhalls, and Darlington. Should you not be able to go, I scarcely see how they will ~~be~~ get along in the management of business and the presentation of topics. But you have cheerfully carried the burden long enough, and your reason for remaining at home (if the interesting event comes off about that time, which you expect) will admit of no complaint or regret. I shall look for the new birth with the deepest interest and solicitude. May you send tidings, "Mother and babe doing well!"

The article from the Investigator I will notice when I write again.

Lenox's letter need not be returned.

Affectionately yours,
W. L. G.